

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3373

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16276

E. O. LL652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, (SCHLESINGER, JAMES R.), GW, NATO, UK, FR

SUBJECT: FMOD VIEW OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S VISIT
TO FRG

REF: BONN 16175

1. IN CONVERSATIONS FOLLOWING UP SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S
VISIT TO BONN LAST WEEKEND, OFFICIALS IN THE GERMAN
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (FMOD) WHO PARTICIPATED IN
THE DELEGATION TO DELEGATION DISCUSSIONS EXPRESSED
SATISFACTION WITH THE VISIT.

NOTING THAT THIS WAS ONLY ONE OF MANY OCCASIONS WHEN
THE TWO DEFENSE MINISTERS HAD HAD A CHANCE TO EXCHANGE
VIEWS AND COORDINATE POSITIONS, THEY VIEWED THIS
PARTICULAR MEETING AS YET ANOTHER IN A SUCCESSFUL
SERIES. AT THE SAME TIME, SINCE ABOUT HALF OF THE
WORKING TIME HAD BEEN DEVOTED TO PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS
BETWEEN THE TWO MINISTERS, THEY FELT UNABLE TO GIVE
A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE VISIT OR OF ITS IMPACT.

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2. IN ONE PARTICULAR CONVERSATION WITH AN EMBASSY OFFICER, A PARTICIPANT IN THE DELEGATION TO DELEGATION DISCUSSIONS NOTED THAT THE MOST INTERESTING RESULTS OF SECRETARY SCHESLINGER'S VISIT FROM THE FRG POINT OF VIEW HAD TAKEN PLACE IN LONDON AND PARIS. THE FRG HAD BEEN STARTLED BY THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE S AND UK CONCERNING WEAPON PURCHASES. EXPRESSING SURPRISE THAT THE MATTER HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED BILATERALLY OR IN NATO BEFORE THE MOU WAS SIGNED, THE FMOD OFFICIAL OBSERVED THAT THE DOCUMENT WAS BEING STUDIED WITH PARTICULAR CARE AND ATTENTION BY THE ARMAMENTS SECTION OF THE DEFENSE MINISTRY.

3. FOR THIS OFFICIAL, THE OTHER SUBJECT OF GREATEST INTEREST STEMMING FROM THE SECRETARY'S TRIP WAS OUR ATTEMPT TO INDUCE FRANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN NATO STANDARDIZATION EFFORTS. NOTING THAT THE SECRETARY'S PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS ON LEAVING PARIS DID NOT GO INTO GREAT DETAIL, THE OFFICIAL EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE RESULTS OF THE SECRETARY'S DISCUSSIONS WOULD SOON BE MADE AVAILABLE TO NATO.
HILLENBRAND

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